

## HB 839 IMPLEMENTATION: TRADING PARTNER TESTING TO BEGIN FEBRUARY 1, 2017

### **Background**

In an effort to improve continuity of health care coverage for children residing in a juvenile facility, the 84th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, passed House Bill 839 (HB 839), requiring the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) (to the extent allowed by federal law) to suspend Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility for a child placed in a juvenile facility and to reinstate Medicaid or CHIP eligibility no later than 48 hours after HHSC receives notification of the child's release from the facility. Following the child's release, the child remains eligible for the remainder of the certification period for which the child was originally certified. Additional information on how this will be operationalized from an eligibility standpoint is available in the [Texas Works Bulletin #16-12](#).

### Medicaid

The Medicaid daily disenrollment file is being revised to include a new disenrollment code for Medicaid members who are reported to be in a juvenile facility. Medicaid MCOs are required to update their enrollment files to note members that are no longer covered.

### CHIP

HHSC is developing a new daily CHIP disenrollment file to notify CHIP MCOs of any members that have been disenrolled since receiving the monthly enrollment file. The daily CHIP disenrollment file will be sent to MCOs on the same schedule as the daily Medicaid disenrollment file. Because there are no disenrollment codes for CHIP at this time, it will contain information on all CHIP members disenrolled from the plan.

### File Testing

HB 839 trading partner testing (TPT) is tentatively scheduled to begin February 1, 2017. Disenrollments will be added to the existing P835 and P35 files. CHIP will be added to the P835 file, which currently only includes CHIP-P.

### Recoupments

HHSC will not recoup premium payments for Medicaid members that were enrolled with an MCO at the beginning of the month, but were subsequently reported to be in a juvenile justice facility. HHSC will follow existing processes for CHIP.

If HHSC receives notice that a CHIP or Medicaid member is placed in a juvenile justice facility after cut-off, and the member was already included in the enrollment file for the next month, then HHSC will recoup the prospective premium payment.

## Questions

Please send any questions to Meghan Young at [meghan.young@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:meghan.young@hhsc.state.tx.us).